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# Village Connect

Electronic Newsletter

*"To Provide a Safe, Quality Community Environment for all Islanders through Responsible Government"*

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## Event Calendar

### **Veteran's Day Ceremony**

Date: Nov. 9, 2009

Time: 9:00 am

Place: Village Green

### **Zone 2/3 Water- Sewer Project Progress Meeting Dates: Nov. 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2009**

Time: 10:30 am

Place: BZP

Conference

Room, Village Hall

### **Village Council Meeting**

Date: Nov. 10, 2009

Time: 7:00 pm

## November 2009

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### **"Get To Know..."**

Take some time to view an interview with Councilman Enrique Garcia and get to know him on a personal level. Please click link below.

[View Interview with Councilman Enrique Garcia](#)

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### **A Message from the Village Manager**

In this third issue we continue our "Get to know...." feature which allows you a closer look at certain issues or village representatives. Councilmember Enrique Garcia is interviewed for this edition of Village Connect. Also, we ask that you provide us with your feedback on how we can continue to improve Village Connect so it may bring to your fingertips relevant and timely information. We continue to strive to fulfill our responsibility as stated in our mission, "To provide a safe, quality community environment for all islanders through responsible government." Your input and partnership will continue to be the guiding light in fulfillment of this mission.

We hope that everyone enjoyed a fun-filled packed weekend on October 30-November 1. A foam party was enjoyed by our youth on Friday October 30 in front of the community center on Village Green Way. The next evening, the Village hosted its haunted house across from the community center. To finish the weekend, the community center celebrated its 5th year anniversary on Sunday with a full day of activities. I would like to thank everyone that came out to enjoy these events and Village staff for their countless hours to pull this off.

We look forward to the completion of probably the biggest capital project this Village will ever undertake. The Water and Sewer Project is in the "home stretch" as it finishes its last leg on West Mashta Drive. It has been a very difficult two years for all. Your cooperation, understanding and patience, has been invaluable in working through a very difficult and complex project. When you have to dig up to 23 feet below our surface and work in those conditions, particularly in an island environment, it brings immense challenges and disruption to daily living. A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU! We hope you visit

Place: Council  
Chamber

**Veteran's Day:  
Village Offices  
Closed;  
Community  
Center Open  
(Wednesday)**

Date: Nov. 11, 2009

**32nd Annual Key  
Biscayne  
Lighthouse Run**

Date: Nov. 14, 2009

Time: 7:45 am

Place: Bill Baggs  
Cape Florida State  
Park

**November Bulky  
Waste Pick-up  
Week**

Dates: Nov. 16-20,  
2009

**Village Council  
Meeting (Zoning)**

Date: Nov. 24, 2009

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Council  
Chamber

**Thanksgiving  
Day: Village  
Offices and  
Community  
Center Closed  
(Thursday)**

Date: Nov. 26, 2009

**Friday After  
Thanksgiving:  
Village Offices  
Closed,**

and enjoy the tot lot on the Village Green with its new sun shade structures. Also, we are working on transitioning 530 Crandon Boulevard from its current use to a usable green space. At the November 10th Village Council Meeting, the future permanent use of that site will be discussed.

As we prepare for the beginning of this holiday season, your elected officials and village staff want to wish you the very best. We hope that you can enjoy a healthy season and that each and every one of you grows stronger as we fight through very difficult times for many.

Best Wishes for the holiday season from everyone at the Village.

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### **Fall/Holiday Special Events and Closings**

Don't forget to register online at the new [Key Biscayne Lighthouse Run website](#) for the 32nd annual 5K and 10K runs/5K walk on November 14. Volunteers are welcome at this hometown tradition co-sponsored by the Village for many years. The Parks and Recreation Department also is co-sponsoring many holiday festivities: Winterfest Eve on December 5, Winterfest on December 6 and the Winterfest Boat Parade on December 12. Details are available at [www.activeislander.org](http://www.activeislander.org). Please be advised that Village offices and the Community Center will be closed on Thanksgiving Day (November 26), Christmas Day (December 25) and New Year's Day (January 1). The Community Center will close early at 4:00 pm on Christmas Eve (December 24) and at 6:00 pm on New Year's Eve (December 31).

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### **Water-Sewer-Reuse Project Update**

Sewer work continues on West Mashta Drive and the south section of Allendale Road, the last streets in Zone 2/3 to receive the improvement. Completion of heavy construction with road closures is expected by December 2009. Zone 2/3 residents should be able to hook up to sewer in March 2010. All homes in Zone 1 and 4 are already hooked up to the new water pipes. Zone 4 residents can connect to the new sewer system. For weekly updates on work areas, street closures, detours, etc., visit the [WSR News article at the Village website](#).

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### **The ABCs of Special Event Permits**

A Special Event Permit is a temporary permit granted by the Building, Planning and Zoning Department to an applicant who wishes to conduct a one-time activity not normally associated with a property. The application must be submitted to BZP at least 20 days prior to the event. The permit is required for the following: any activity located on public property where public space must be reserved; any activity where excessive noise is expected; any activity anywhere that involves noise associated with installation and use of temporary structures, electric or plumbing; any activity anywhere involving a

**Community Center Open**

Date: Nov. 27, 2009

**Zone 2/3 Water/ Sewer Project Progress Meeting**

Dates: Dec. 1, 8, 20

15 and 22, 2009

Time: 10:30 am

Place: BZP

Conference

Room, Village Hall

**Winterfest Eve**

Date: Dec. 5, 2009

Time: 6:00-10:00

pm

Place: Village Green

**Winterfest**

Date: Dec. 6, 2009

Time: 4:00-7:30 pm

Place: Village Green

**Village Council Meeting**

Date: Dec. 8, 2009

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Council

Chamber

**Winterfest Boat Parade**

Date: Dec. 12, 2009

Time: 6:00-8:30 pm

Place: No Name

Harbor/Bill Baggs

Cape Florida State

Park

**December Bulky Waste Pick-up Week**

Dates: Dec. 14-18,

special parking arrangement that may cause excessive noise. Details about specific noise criteria and a link to the application are given at the [Special Events Permit web page](#).

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**Village Part of Regional Terrorism Exercise**

Starting on July 22 and ending with a four-hour exercise on July 29, the Village participated in Operation Cassandra under the direction of Fire Rescue Chief John Gilbert. This regional full-scale terrorism exercise occurred simultaneously in Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties in coordination and cooperation with municipal, county, regional and state emergency operations and command centers. The Village exercise was developed to activate and implement the Village's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), an all-hazards plan designed specifically for Key Biscayne. Operation Cassandra tracked responses of department directors and seconds-in-command. Each individual has specific duties under the CEMP. The exercise showed that the Village can respond not only to hurricanes but to other threats that could unfortunately become a reality in today's unstable world.

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**Overview: Solid Waste and Recycling Services**

The Village provides [solid waste, bulk trash and recycling services to single-family home and duplex residents](#) only for a yearly fee. Services include use of the bulky waste container in the Public Works yard at 530 Crandon Boulevard and curbside pick-up of Christmas trees. Vegetation and personal belongings, but not construction waste, are accepted in the container. Residents are reminded that no trash pickup will occur on Christmas Day (December 25). Christmas tree pick-up will be the week of January 11 (please remove all decorations!). In contrast, multi-family property associations are responsible for solid waste disposal and recycling services. [Recycling for multi-family buildings is required under Miami-Dade County code](#), but residents must make arrangements of their own if their condo does not provide for disposal of large items. In past years, Public Works picked up Christmas trees from the swales in front of buildings as a courtesy to residents. This service may change this year based on the availability of the 530 Crandon yard where the trees were ground into mulch. Please contact the Department at (305) 365-8945 in December for updates.

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**Planning Underway for Public Safety Day**

The Police Department is organizing the 2nd Annual Public Safety Day in collaboration with the Fire Rescue Department. The event will likely be in February 2010. Check the Village website calendar for the final date. Get ready to crawl through smoke, climb a rock wall, "drive" a police boat, dunk a Chief, learn more about your Village public safety providers and eat until you can't eat any more. Raffle tickets will be sold with the proceeds going toward both the UM/JMH Burn Center

2009

**Annual Holiday Luncheon for Residents**

Date: Dec. 18, 2009  
Time: 12:00 noon  
Place: Island Room/  
Community Center

**Village Council Meeting (Zoning)**

Date: Dec. 22, 2009  
Time: 7:00 pm  
Place: Council  
Chamber

**Christmas Eve: Community Center Closes at 4:00 pm**

Date: Dec. 24, 2009

**Christmas Day: Village Offices and Community Center Closed; No Village Trash Pickup (Friday)**

Date: Dec. 25, 2009

**New Year's Eve: Community Center Closes at 6:00 pm**

Date: Dec. 31, 2009

**New Year's Day: Village Offices and Community Center Closed (Friday)**

Date: Jan. 1, 2010

**Village Council**

and the Key Biscayne Police Athletic-Activities League (PAL). Organizers received great donations last year and are again in need for the next event. If you, or anyone you know, can donate an item to be raffled, please contact Officer Vicki Hernandez at (305) 365-5555 x1128.

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## **Village Department News You Can Use**

### ***Administration:***

The Village Council approved the budget for the next fiscal year at the 2nd Budget Hearing. The [FY2009-10 Budget is available online](#) as a PDF document.

### ***Building, Zoning and Planning:***

Renewals of the Local Business Tax Receipt (formerly called and Occupational License) for FY2009-10 were due on October 1. Information about late fees and links to interactive PDF application forms are available at the Village [Local Business Tax Receipt web page](#). If you have a question, call Graciela Miguel at (305) 365-7563.

### ***Fire Rescue:***

Fire Rescue personnel offer blood pressure screenings to residents of Key Biscayne. This service is provided free of charge. Call the Fire Station for more information at (305) 365-8989, or drop by the Front Desk at the station entrance below the tower at the corner of Crandon Boulevard and West McIntyre Street.

### ***Parks and Recreation:***

The Village Green Tot Lot recently reopened with much of the equipment protected by a [new shade system](#). The Community Center's 5th Anniversary Celebration during the October 30-November 1 weekend was a great success. [Photo albums](#) of the Foam Party, Halloween Haunted House and the Block Party/ Open House can be viewed at [www.activeislander.org](http://www.activeislander.org).

### ***Police:***

Meeting times for the Key Biscayne Police Athletic-Activities League (PAL) have changed to 4:00-5:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month in the Community Room (Rm 120) of Village Hall. Middle school and high school students are encouraged to join the PAL. They can earn community service hours for participation in certain PAL activities.

### ***Public Works:***

Public Works staff, BZP Chief Building Official Eugene Santiago and

**Meeting**

Date: Jan 12, 2010

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Council  
Chamber

*More information on  
these events is  
available at the  
Village website  
Event Calendar*

**Contact Information****Village Manager**

(305) 365-8919

**Village Clerk**

(305) 365-5506

**Public Works**

(305) 365-8945

**Police**

(305) 365-5555

**Fire**

(305) 365-8989

**Community Center**

(305) 365-8900

**Building, Zoning, and  
Planning**

(305) 365-5512

**Village Hall**

88 West McIntyre Street  
Key Biscayne, Florida  
33149  
[www.keybiscayne.fl.gov](http://www.keybiscayne.fl.gov)

IT staff recently submitted a [Floodplain Management Plan update](#) to the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System (CRS) program. The Village has participated in the voluntary CRS program since 1998 and currently holds a Class 7 rating that provides a 15% flood insurance premium discount to all flood insurance policy holders in the community. Yearly reports, required to maintain or improve the CRS rating, describe activities the Village is pursuing to reduce flood losses in the community.

Comments? Questions? Suggestions? Send an email to [jmedina@keybiscayne.fl.gov](mailto:jmedina@keybiscayne.fl.gov)

**Your Village Government**

Mayor Robert Vernon

Vice Mayor Michael Davey

Councilmembers:

Enrique Garcia, Robert Gusman, Michael Kelly,

Jorge Mendia, Thomas Thornton

Village Manager Genaro "Chip" Iglesias

Village Clerk Conchita H. Alvarez

Village Attorneys Weiss Serota Helfman Pastoriza Cole & Boniske

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